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PTO/SB/21 (09-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 10/765,950 **TRANSMITTAL** Filing Date January 29, 2004 First Named Inventor **FORM** Aram Art Unit 3733 **Examiner Name** Hoffman, Mary C. (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Attorney Docket Number 4004.001 Total Number of Pages in This Submission ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

ENGLOSONES (Check all that apply)								
	Fee Tran	smittal Form		Drawing(s)			After Allowance Communication to TC Appeal Communication to Board	
	LJ F	ee Attached		Licensing-related Papers			of Appeals and Interferences	
✓		ent/Reply		Petition Petition to Convert to a			Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)	
		fter Final ffidavits/declaration(s)		Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocat Change of Correspondence			Proprietary Information Status Letter	
	Extension	n of Time Request		Terminal Disclaimer		✓	Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):	
\exists	•	xpress Abandonment Request		Request for Refund				
	Information Disclosure Statement		CD, Number of CD(s) Landscape Table on CD					
Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)		Remarks Election w/ Traverse						
Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53								
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT								
Firm Name Berenato, White & Stavish		1						
Signature IC /								
Printed name		David S. Taylor						
Date		March 20, 2006			Reg. No.	39,045		
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PATENT Docket No. 4004.001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:)		
ARAM, et al.) Group Art Unit: 3733		
ARAIVI, Et al.) Examiner: Hoffman, Mary C.		
Entitled: "SURGICAL INSTRUMENT AND)		
RELATED METHODS")		
Carriel No. 10/765 050)		
Serial No. 10/765,950)		
Filed: January 29, 2004	Ć		
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Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 20, 2006

AMENDMENT AND ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE

Please amend the application as set forth below, and consider the following remarks in response to the Office Action of March 1, 2006.